

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
BUILDING CODES COMMITTEE

April 16, 2003  
Maricopa Association of Governments Office  
Cholla Room  
Phoenix, Arizona

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ken Sowers, Avondale  
Mike Tibbett, Carefree  
Bob Lee, Cave Creek  
Alex Banachowski, Chandler  
\*Unappointed, El Mirage  
\*Pam Anderson, Fountain Hills  
\*Unappointed, Gila Bend  
A - JoRene Deveau, Gila River Indian  
Community  
A- Ray Patten, Gilbert  
Bill Griffith, Glendale  
Autumn Hartsoe, Goodyear  
Chuck Ransom, Litchfield Park

V - Armando Rivas, Paradise Valley  
David Nakagawara, Peoria  
\*Rick Doell, Phoenix  
Tim Wegner, Queen Creek  
David Potter, Scottsdale  
\*Forrest Fielder, Surprise  
Michael Williams, Tempe  
Mario Rochin, Tolleson  
\*Skip Blunt, Wickenburg  
Bob Cooperider, Youngtown  
Tom Ewers, Maricopa County  
\*Rus Brock, Home Builders Association  
\*Orion Goff, Mesa

\*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

A-Those members participating via audioconference

V-Those members participating via videoconference

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Alexis, Knipe, M.ed., University of  
Arizona  
Michelle Green, MAG  
Michael Neary, Arizona Solar Energy  
Industrial Association

Harry Wolfe, MAG  
Constance Kish, MAG

1. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Introductions

Members of the Committee introduced themselves. The chair then introduced Harry Wolfe who was present to receive a certificate of appreciation from the committee for his years of dedicated service. The chair read the resolution and asked for a motion to adopt it. Mario made the motion to adopt and Ken seconded it. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 19, 2003

Mario Rochin moved to accept the minutes and Chuck Ransom seconded the motion. Mr. Lee asked if there were any comments prior to taking a vote. Hearing none, a roll call vote was taken and the minutes were approved with one abstention. Tim Wegner who was not at that meeting abstained from voting on the minutes.

4. Call to the Public

The chair asked if anyone from the public or the committee would like to discuss a topic that is not on the agenda.

David Potter indicated that the City of Scottsdale is going to prepare a list of approved truss manufacturers stating that anyone who is interested in the information can get a copy from Ann Palmer, City of Scottsdale Office Coordination Manager, Planning & Development Services, Inspection & Land Survey, 9191 E. San Salvador Dr. Scottsdale AZ 85258. Phone 480-312-5756 e-mail apalmer@ScottsdaleAZ.Gov

The chair then brought up the topic of soil compaction reports and was interested in how other jurisdictions are handling these issues. Mike Tibbett indicated that typically the footing detail will indicate x below engineering compacted fill. Any fill of 7-10 feet requires a fill and compaction report that is engineer certified and indicates what the soil bearing capacity is.

Bob then asked how other jurisdictions are handling it. Bill Griffith indicated that the City of Glendale recently established a policy for that.

Autumn Hartsoe stated that the City of Goodyear has a policy that requires an engineer certified soil compaction report if there is 12 inches or more of fill.

Mike said that the Town of Carefree deals mostly with custom homes and typically there are no problems. He indicated that the one that raised issues was a case where expansive fill was brought to the site and it came back at 85. When the engineer who approved the report was asked about it he indicated that the fill compaction report was not correct the fill was not designed to carry the load that it would be bearing it was designed for a smaller building for some reason.

Bob then asked the committee if it should be standard to ask for an engineer certified compaction report.

Mike said that as Autumn stated the code requires it for 12 inches or more.

Armando indicated that they always ask for both soils and PAD certification.

Bill Griffiths then added that the report for Glendale did include appendix chapters. It also requires PAD certification from a soils engineer that states that the soil is sufficiently compacted to carry the design loads. Bill offered to submit a policy for possible adoption by the committee.

#### 5. Southwest Leadership Program for Local and State Government

Alexis Knipe, M.ed., is a senior research specialist for the Institute for Local Government at the University of Arizona. In addition to doing research on local government issues, Alexis runs the SW Leadership Program for Local and State Government. Ms. Knipe presented on the status, history and future goals of the program. Ms. Knipe indicated that Bob, Tim and Armando have been through the program and suggested that members of the committee could ask them about their experience. Ms. Knipe stated that she would send out brochures to members of the committee for the next module, which is scheduled to begin on September 16, 2003.

Bob then stated that he highly recommends the program and recommended that committee members take advantage of the Central ICC scholarships that are available.

#### 6. Permit Requirements for Solar Hot Water Systems

The chair introduced Michael Neary of the Arizona Chapter of the Solar Energy Industries Association to present an update on a proposed process for permitting solar hot water heating systems.

Mr. Neary provided a handout with the changes that were made to the proposed process as a result of discussions at the last committee meeting. Mr. Neary indicated that the intent is to adopt items 1 through 6 in the handout and not include the introduction.

Armando asked whom one would call to get info on this. Mr. Neary stated that there is a solar hotline number 623-253-8180

Mike indicated that one could go to the website at [Azsolarindustry.org](http://Azsolarindustry.org).

Bill indicated that the load exceeds what he thought it would be.

Bob stated that he thought the same but trusses are designed to support 20lbs/sq.ft and maybe that's ok.

Anthony stated that it displaces the live load.

Bill then asked if tile roofing would be underneath the system.

Anthony replied by saying that it depends.

Bob then asked if there was a motion.

Tom indicated that he would move to adopt as standard as long as there is a final MAG draft that prepared showing just items one through six.

Mario seconded the motion, a roll call vote was taken and the vote passed unanimously.

7. Update on Activities of the Building Inspectors and Plans Examiners Forum

Cheryl Levandowski was unavailable to provide an update on the forum; however, a copy of a memo addressed to Bob Lee regarding fireblocking was transmitted with the agenda for this meeting.

Tim Wegner indicated that the Town of Queen Creek has not been allowing it for about 6 months or so.

Bob then recounted a test that the Town of Cave Creek did on the non-flammable foam where the foam ignited and burned easily. He then asked for a motion to include the memo with the fireblocking standards as an official MAG standard.

David Nakagawara, moved that the fireblocking standards as outlined in the memo from the Building Inspectors and Plans Examiners dated, February 27, 2003 be adopted as a MAG standard.

Mario Rochin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion and it passed unanimously.

8. Consideration of Meeting Every Other Month

The chair indicated that based on comments made by the committee this item could be removed from the agenda; however, he indicated that he would like to try to begin the meeting one hour earlier if possible.

9. Due to an error in the numbering of agenda items, there is no item number nine.

10. Discussion of Mission of the Building Codes Committee

Members of the building codes committee discussed the goal of uniformity that is trying to be achieved by having all of the valley cities using the same code. The committee asked Michelle to look into ways that the committee might encourage member agencies to cooperate on this issue.

#### 11. Update on the State Plumbing Commission

Steve Burger was unavailable to provide an update on the status of the State Plumbing Code Commission. Autumn Hartsoe was there to represent him. Ms. Hartsoe passed out a handout with a list of the current members on the Commission. She indicated that there is a vacancy in the north and mentioned that any recommendations to fill those vacancies would be welcome.

#### 12. Update Survey of Code Adoption

Bob Lee asked if everyone at the meeting had a chance to look over the list of codes that each member agency is currently using and make any corrections they felt necessary.

Bob then asked if the committee felt that it would be appropriate to pick a set of codes, perhaps the I-codes as a standard and set a goal for adoption.

David Potter indicated that the City of Phoenix is in the process of adopting the 2002 Electrical Code. He stated that the amendments, and other information may be available on the City's website. He then said that this might be the easiest one to deal with because there is really no choice it is simply a matter of when.

Bob indicated that the Town of Cave Creek is looking at adopting the 2002 NEC at the same time as the 2003 codes.

Mario indicated that he was hopeful the his City Council would adopt the 2000 I-Codes in a couple of months

Autumn indicated that Steve is targeting @ January 2004 for Council adoption with a July 2004 implementation date for the 2003 I-Codes with the NEC 2002 code.

Tim asked if AZBO is going to prepare an amendment package as they have done in the past.

Autumn indicated that it would be the subject of a discussion at the annual business meeting.

Bob indicated that the issue is that the ICC is changed from an annual schedule to an 18 - month schedule.

Autumn then indicated that the next code review meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2002. She stated that if the amendments proposed, are not approved by the ICC then they will be removed.

David Potter indicated that the list for 2003 should be smaller.

Tim then asked if we have requested a submittal of changes for 2003 codes.

Autumn replied by stating that the Code Review Committee has the same process in place. Autumn will request changes to the 2003 codes at the next meeting. She also indicated that many of the changes that would be required are already in the 2003 version of the codes.

Chuck then proposed 2004 as a goal for an effective date. Bob then notices that this item is not on the agenda for action, which means that the committee cannot vote on it at this time. Bob then requested that action be added to the agenda for next month.

#### 13. Updated MAG Building Codes Committee Membership

The Membership roster was circulated with the agenda for this meeting and no changes were noted.

#### 14. Topics for Future Agendas

Bob suggested that it might be interesting to have IAPMO make a presentation about themselves and what they do. Bob volunteered to look into it and see what he could arrange.

#### 15. Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on May 21, 2003 at 2 pm in the Cholla Room. Mario Rochin made the motion to adjourn, Alex seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:19 pm.